



# Learn to receive what God has for you

Have you ever had a hard time receiving a gift from someone? God's gift of salvation is one gift you will want to say yes to.

Ephesians 2:8-9 says, "For it is by free grace that you are saved ... through faith. And this is not of yourselves, but it is the gift of God; not because of works...lest any man should boast" (AMPC).

We are saved by the grace of God through our faith in Him; our faith does not buy our salvation — it

merely receives it.

As Ephesians 2:8 says, salvation "is the gift of God." It is impossible to buy a free gift and this can be hard for us to understand. Our flesh wants to earn and deserve this free gift and take credit for being worthy of it.

But salvation is given to us freely, by God's grace, and the same way we receive Christ's salvation, is the same way we have to live — by grace.

God gives us His forgiveness and grace daily; we just have to believe and receive it.

*In Christ, you are sin-free in God's eyes*

When God forgives your sins, it means all of your sins: past, present and future. You do not have to be afraid of sin because God has taken care of the problem. This is why the Gospel is such good news.

Some may worry that if we don't fear sin, we will keep sinning on purpose, but that's

not true. If you are truly born again and really have a relationship with God, there is a new nature inside of you.

Second Corinthians 5:17 says, "If any person is [ingrafted] in Christ he is a new creation; the old has passed away. Behold, the fresh and new has come" (AMPC).

Now, no one is perfect, and we all make mistakes sometimes.

But if the Holy Spirit is living in your spirit through salvation, you won't be comfortable with those mistakes because God's nature is at work in you.

The devil would love for us to feel like God is mad at us for our mistakes, but the truth is, God is love and we need to humbly accept His love and grace.

*Changed by grace*

In John 15:5 (AMPC), Jesus says, "I am the Vine; you are the branches. Whoever lives in Me and I in

him bears much fruit. However, apart from Me you can do nothing."

I love this scripture because it reminds me that God doesn't expect me to change on my own.

He is the power source and gives us the grace and strength we need to do what's right and make changes in our lives.

Here's how we cooperate with Him, doing what we can do to bring about change:

1. We hear the truth in God's Word and we're convicted by it. It's the Word that shows us who we are and reveals the sin in our lives. We have to realize what we're doing wrong before we can know what needs to change and how.

2. Then we repent of our sin. Being repentant means we're sincerely sorry and willing to turn away from it. (See 1 John 1:9.)

3. The next step is to study the Word in the area we

need change.

For example, if I have a problem with anger, I need to study scriptures about anger and forgiveness.

Use the Word like medicine and take it into your heart and mind.

James 1:21 (AMPC) says to "welcome the Word which implanted and rooted [in your hearts] contains the power to save your souls."

There is power in God's Word to bring change to our souls.

*Receive all God has for you and enjoy your life*

To receive God's blessings and enjoy everyday life, we simply need to make the decision to believe Him and His Word more than our thoughts and feelings.

The Bible is our instruction manual on how to grow into the new nature He's given us and become who He wants us to be.

So take some time each day

to read and meditate on scriptures that tell you about God's love for you, who you are and what you have in Christ.

Ephesians 3:17 (AMPC) says, "May Christ through your faith dwell in your hearts. May you be rooted deep in love and founded securely on love."

This scripture is saying that God loves you; His will is for you to be His child and receive every blessing He has for you — righteousness, peace, joy, provision of your needs, healing and restoration.

In Christ, you have a personal relationship with your Father God, you can hear from God and be led by the Holy Spirit, who lives in your spirit.

In Christ, you have access to God's grace and strength to do whatever you need to do.

Because of God's grace, you are blessed and you can enjoy your life.

## Soup's On to discuss pleasure, diversion vs. virtue

On Monday, Nov 30, at 6:30 p.m., all are invited to join a group of friends from diverse spiritual paths who enjoy discussing a variety of spiritual topics. This week they will discuss "Pleasure and Diversion."

The Baha'i writings say, "One of the signs of a decadent society, a sign which is very evident in the world today, is an almost frenetic devotion to pleasure and diversion, an insatiable thirst for amusement, a fanatical

devotion to games and sport, a reluctance to treat any matter seriously, and a scornful, derisive attitude towards virtue and solid worth..."

The evening will begin with bowls of rice and bean soup, homemade bread, veg-

etables and a celebration of James' 71st birthday, followed by the evening's topic until 8:30 p.m.

The gathering will end with prayers for the requests left in the Prayer Pole in the garden of the Florence Playhouse and

those shared by the group.

Everyone is invited to attend this weekly meeting at the Heintz home, 875 Seventh St.

For more information, call Suzanne Mann-Heintz at 541-590-0779.

## Unitarians to discuss 'divine guidance'

The Rev. Dr. Marcia Pearce will lead the Florence Unitarian Universalist worship service on Sunday, Nov. 29, from 10 to 11 a.m.

The title of Pearce's talk is: "Mystic Presence, Divine Guidance, Intuition — Which Is It?"

"When we need help and choose to call upon something greater than ourselves, what is it that answers?" asks Pearce. "Is it really what we call God? And, over the years, have we let our God grow up?"

Pearce will share one or two of the spiritual experiences that have moved her to grow.

While still honoring the God of her childhood, Pearce says she now obtains the greatest joy and fulfillment in the counsel of the Divine within.

"That counsel comes to all of us — when we seek it," says Pearce.

The UU Fellowship is located at 87738 Highway 101 at Heceta Beach Road.

FUUF is wheelchair accessible, and each service concludes with refreshments and a dialogue circle to explore the questions that come up during each service.

For more information, call 541-997-2840.

## Elks host Christmas party for children Dec. 19

Florence Elks Club will host its annual Children's Christmas Party on Saturday, Dec. 19, from 1 to 3 p.m.

There will be a performance by CROW, a children's theater company, and the Elks' line dancing group.

The Ladies of Elks will pro-

vide homemade cookies, served with BJ's Ice Cream, the Past Exalted Rulers will provide the pinata games and, of course, Santa Claus will make a special visit.

For more information, call the Florence Elks at 541-997-2610.

### Join Us In Worship

4 lines, approx 15 words, \$10 a week  
4 week Minimum  
Deadline 3 p.m. Mondays.

To be included in this directory contact  
the Siuslaw News at 997-3441, or drop off  
information at 148 Maple St., Old Town, Florence.

## JOIN US IN WORSHIP

WATCH! 3 ANGELS BROADCASTING NETWORK  
(3ABN) TV UHF Channel 48.

24 hour Christian TV highlights Bible studies of prophecy, inspirational music, health lectures, healthy cooking and more.

### BAY BERRY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP SINGSPIRATION

You are invited to come and sing your favorite old time gospel hymns  
Every Friday night at 7pm • Non-denominational  
Bay Berry Square; 101 at Sutton Lake Dr. /milepost 185 N.  
For more information, please call 541-997-2681

### THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Located at Munsel Lake Road and North Fork Road  
Worship Services 10:00 AM Sunday  
All are welcome! 541-997-7268

### COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

4590 Hwy. 101, Across from Fred Meyer — 997-7418  
Sunday School, 9:30a.m. — Worship, 10:45  
Wed. Prayer - 6:00 p.m. — Wed. Ministries 1-8 Grade 7 p.m.

### CROSS ROAD ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Corner of 10th & Maple — 997-3533  
Bible Study at 9:00 A.M.  
Services: Worship, 10:30 A.M.  
florencecrossroad.org • office@florencecrossroad.org

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - SBC

1935 25th St. — 997-7660 • Pastor, Dr. Marvin Owen  
Series "Through the Bible" on Wednesdays 6 p.m.  
A friendly place to worship, vacationers welcome.  
Sun.: 11am & 6pm, Sunday school 9:45am.

### FLORENCE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

2nd & Ivy — 997-2961 — Non-Denominational  
Worship Service: 9:00 am & 10:30 am  
Middle School and High School youth groups meet on Wednesday.

### FLORENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST

Pre-Denominational (Romans 16:16)  
1833 Tamarack Street (2 blocks east of Hwy. 101 on 18th St.)  
Bible Study: Sunday 10 a.m.; Worship: Sunday 11 a.m.  
www.churchofchristflorence.org

### FLORENCE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

12th and Nopal — 997-9020  
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
Youth Group Wed. 7-8:30 p.m.  
Online Worship Service@ www.florencenaz.com

### FLORENCE EVANGELICAL CHURCH

1318 Rhododendron Dr. — 997-2523 — Worship at 11:00 AM — Sunday School  
at 9:30 AM — Variety of Sunday evening activities - 5 PM  
Wed. Bible & Children classes at 6:00 PM  
Call for details.

### FLORENCE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

4445 Hwy 101 (South of Fred Meyer) — 997-3951  
Worship on Saturday 10:30 A.M.  
Adult/Children's Sabbath School 9:15 A.M.

### FLORENCE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

N.W. Corner of Heceta Beach Road & Hwy. 101  
Every Sunday at 10 a.m.  
All are welcome. (541) 997-2840

### FLORENCE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1st Sunday of Month Worship 10:30  
All other Sundays Worship 9 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.  
2nd & Kingwood • (541) 997-6025  
"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"

### FOUR SQUARE CHURCH

1624 Highway 101 (next to A&W) — 997-6337  
Pastor George Pagel — Something for the entire family.  
Sun. Services: 10:45 a.m., Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m. — Youth Group: Sat., 6 p.m.  
Website: florence4square.com

### FLORENCE VINEYARD (GOD'S POWER HOUSE)

2610 Kingwood, Florence • 541-268-2025  
Sunday Worship @ 10:00 a.m., experience the Power of the Holy Spirit  
Pastors: George & Beverly Sisemore  
Intercessory Prayer & Worship, Thursday night @ 5:00 pm  
florencevineyardchurch.com

### NEW LIFE CHURCH-UPC

1525 12th St., Suite 24 • 541-991-9398  
Sunday Services: 10am and 6pm  
Tues. Bible Study 7:00pm

### NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH, E.L.C.A.

21st & Spruce Street — 997-8113  
Adult Forum 9 a.m. — Sunday School 10:30 a.m.  
Worship services; Sun. 10:30am & Wed. 6pm.  
Pastor Lori Blake  
www.lutheranchurchflorence.com

### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE SIUSLAW

Traditional Worship Service 10:00 a.m., Reverend Greg Wood  
Sunday School and Nursery — Organ and Choir  
All Welcome. Come as you are.  
3996 N Hwy 101 997-7136

### RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

"War is still not the answer." FCNL  
We worship in homes at 11am Sundays  
Call 997-4237 or 902-9511 for locations.

### RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH, L.C.M.S.

Every Sun., Bible Class 9 a.m., Worship Service 10 a.m.  
85294 Hwy. 101 S. — 997-8038  
DVD of Weekly worship service available.  
Pastor Randy Benscoter

### ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2135 19th St. — 997-6600  
The Rev. Georgia C. DuBose, Vicar  
8:30am, Tuesdays, Morning Prayer  
Sunday Services: 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. — Wed, 11 a.m.  
Everyone Welcome — Come walk our Labyrinth.

### SAINT MARY, OUR LADY OF THE DUNES CATHOLIC CHURCH

Masses: Sat. 5:30 p.m., Sun. 11:00 a.m.  
1.5 miles south of river on Hwy 101 — 997-2312

## ...need a friend?

### Meet Tommy

Breed Spaniel/Mix  
Sex Male  
Size Small  
Color Black/White



If you would like to meet Tommy or any of his friends, please visit us at:

**FLORENCE HUMANE SOCIETY**  
2840 Rhododendron Drive • Florence • 541-997-4277

[www.florencehumane.org](http://www.florencehumane.org)  
*This message brought to you by:*

**Friends of the  
Humane Society,  
if you would like to help a  
friend call the Siuslaw News  
541-902-3525.**